TACTICAL DATA NETWORK

DESCRIPTION

The Tactical Data Network (TDN) augments the existing MAGTF communications infrastructure by forming the communications backbone for MAGTF tactical data systems and Defense Message System. The TDN system consists of a network of gateways and servers interconnected with one another and their subscribers via a combination of common-user, long-haul transmission systems, along with local area networks and switched telephone systems.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

TDN provides its subscribers with basic data transfer and switching services; access to strategic, supporting establishment, joint, and other-service component tactical data networks; network management capabilities; and value-added services such as message handling, directory services, file sharing, and terminal emulation support. It will provide Internet Protocol connectivity for tactical data systems and the Defense Message System. Without TDN, units will only be able to establish *ad hoc*, non-standard local area networks. They will be forced to connect into the communications infrastructure by any means available, making it difficult for them to support technically and logistically.

PROGRAM STATUS

The Marine Corps has fielded 31 TDN gateway and 447 TDN Data Distribution Systems (DDS). An additional 30 TDN DDS are planned for use at the Marine Corps Communications and Electronics School. Block I TDN is in the production phase, having achieved initial operational capability in May 2002. A Block II modification and upgrade of the TDN Data Distribution System that provides backup and redundancy is scheduled for fielding in the second quarter of FY 2004. A TDN Block III modification/upgrade, Information Assurance (IA) integration, and secure wireless LAN is planned for Program Objective Memorandum period 2006.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE:	FY 04	FY 05
Quantity:	20	43

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

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